



APRIL 1991

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**CLUB CALL - W9RH** This is one of those months when getting this editorial off the ground is easier said than done. Perhaps it's this weather, cold and rainy, just one week after experiencing such beautiful weather. I suppose the one good thing about it is that I'm not tempted to play "hooky" from the computer and find some way to enjoy myself outdoors. Of course, there's always the HF rig, and propagation has been good this weekend...

I do hope that no one was too terribly inconvenienced by the typographical error regarding license exam dates in last month's Hamateur Chatter. In the rush to get everything together, I simply failed to notice that the 3rd fell in Easter Week. Pretending that I was just trying to see if anyone reads these words will not remedy the faux pas. Needless to say, measures have been taken to prevent a recurrence.

Recently packet radio signals have been noted on several area repeaters by myself and others. I assume that these signals are due to beginning packeteers straying from the regular packet channels and finding what they think is a clear frequency. In reality they end up sitting on a repeater input frequency which results in their signal going a lot farther than was probably intended. The interference caused by these signals is particularly irritating to anyone monitoring the repeater using an earphone such as is often done in net situations during public service events. Active packet operators could help remedy the situation by spreading the word on the normal packet frequencies. Perhaps this problem can be effectively stopped now, before it spreads uncontrollably.

The severe weather season is once again upon us. Already there has been one major incident in southeastern Wisconsin which helped to reinforce the need for readiness with regard to weather. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service serves as the eyes and ears of the National Weather Service during periods of severe weather. Even with the sophisticated instrumentation which is available to meteorologists, the reports transmitted to the Weather Service via amateur radio give them information as to what is happening at a particular place at a particular time. Weekly ARES nets are held Monday nights at 9:00 PM on the 146.67- repeater. Severe weather nets are held whenever conditions warrant. Participation is open to any amateur with a Technician Class license or greater. During severe weather nets pay close attention to the net control station with regard to the guidelines for a reportable severe weather condition.

The regular Field Day Site from past years may not be available to the club due to the sale of the property. At this time, alternate sites are being investigated. ANYONE with viable suggestions for Field Day sites is invited to make them known. Contact any of the club officers or come to the April meeting and make your ideas known at that time. MRAC Field Day will be held, we just don't know where yet.

The Nominating Committee would like to hear from anyone interested in running for one of the three positions opening up on the Board of Directors. If this sounds like something you want to do, contact one of the committee members. See last month's newsletter for the details.

One last note, the club has recently purchased a Cushcraft A3S antenna which will be put into use at Field Day and other appropriate club functions. MRAC is moving into the 90s with new resolve and direction. If you're not already a part of it, it's not too late to sign up.

CU next month,  
KE9LL editor

## MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club will be held on Thursday, April 25th at 7:30 PM in Room 280 of Wauwatosa East High School. The doors will open at 7:00 PM for ragchewing and the like. The title for this meeting's program is to be announced.

## SILENT KEY

I am sorry to report that Tony Smrekar, W9KDZ, became a silent key on March 27th. Our sympathy is extended to Tony's family and friends.

## VEC LICENSE EXAMS

The MRAC-VEC will be conducting license exams on Wednesday evening, May 10th at 7:00 P.M. in Rm. 256 of Wauwatosa East High School. The school is located on the corner of 76th St. and Milwaukee Avenue. The current amateur license (if any) and two (2) photocopies are required along with two other forms of identification. An exam fee of \$5.00 for all exams except the Novice will be collected at the time of registration. To register in advance, send a postcard with your name, address, telephone number and the grade of the license for which you are applying to Jack Krause, W9JK, MARC-VEC, 1737 N. 116th St. Wauwatosa, WI. 53226 (phone 774-6999.) Walk-ins on exam day are accepted.

## MILWAUKEE AREA NET INFORMATION

TIME	DAY	FREQUENCY (MHz)	SUBJECT
9:00 PM	Monday	146.67	Milwaukee-Waukesha ARES
9:00 PM	Tuesday	145.13	MAARS Roundtable
8:00 PM	Wednesday	28.365	Milwaukee Chapter of 10-10 International
9:00 PM	Thursday	146.91	6.91 Computer Net
9:00 PM	Friday	28.400	W9RH on the air. MRAC Club Station
10:00 AM	Sunday	443.80	FM38 link to the Baraboo Swapnet (146.88)
8:00 PM	Sunday	28.805	Milwaukee Chapter of 10-10 International
8:30 PM	Sunday	146.91	6.91 Information Net
9:00 PM	Sunday	146.91	6.91 Swapnet

The 2 meter frequencies are FM repeaters, all are -600KHz offset. The 10 meter frequencies are USB. The 440 MHz frequency is for an FM repeater with a +5MHz offset.

If there are any nets which you would like added to this list, please contact the editor of this publication.



### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR HAMATEUR CHATTER

Articles for inclusion in this publication should be submitted to the editor NO LATER than the 7th day of the month of publication. Therefore, please have any information for the April newsletter to me by the end of Sunday, April 7th. Also please notice that events which occur between the 7th and the 21st of a month should be included in the previous month's newsletter. That way the readers can be informed prior to the occurrence of the event. Your cooperation in this is greatly appreciated.



ZCZC AG82 QST DE WIAW ARRL BULLETIN 17 ARLE017 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT MARCH 29, 1991 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1991 WIAW VOICE BULLETINS WILL BE COMING ON THE AIR 15 MINUTES LATER. LOOK FOR THE PHONE BULLETINS TO START AT 45 MINUTES PAST THE HOUR RATHER THAN ON THE HALF HOUR. THIS CHANGE ALLOWS MORE TIME FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF BULLETINS ON DIGITAL MODES. NNNN

ZCZC AP67 QST DE WIAW PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN 11 ARLP011 FROM TAD COOK, K17H SEATTLE, WA MARCH 30, 1991 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

THIS PAST WEEK WE WITNESSED THE MOST INTENSE GEOMAGNETIC STORM AND ASSOCIATED HF COMMUNICATIONS BLACKOUT OF THIS SOLAR CYCLE. THINGS STARTED HAPPENING ON MARCH 22 WHEN A MAJOR X CLASS FLARE RIPPED OUT OF REGION 6555 ON THE SUN. OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS, THE EARTH WAS BLASTED WITH SHOWERS OF PROTONS FROM WAVE AFTER WAVE OF INTENSE SOLAR FLARES. THIS WAS AN EVENT RIVALED ONLY BY THE FLARES OF MARCH, 1989, ALTHOUGH THE EFFECT ON THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD AND RADIO COMMUNICATIONS WAS MUCH GREATER THIS TIME.

THE BOULDER K INDEX WENT AS HIGH AS EIGHT ON MARCH 24 AND 25. THIS IS A VALUE THAT DURING UNSTABLE CONDITIONS IS AROUND THREE, AND HAS A FULL SCALE VALUE OF NINE. INTENSE AURORAL ACTIVITY PRODUCED LONG DISTANCE PROPAGATION ON THE TWO METER BAND, AND THE NORTHERN LIGHTS WERE SEEN AS FAR SOUTH AS TEXAS AND GEORGIA. MANY USERS OF THE HF SPECTRUM THOUGHT THAT THEIR RECEIVERS WERE DEAD. THE SOLAR FLUX REACHED 260 ON THE 24TH, WHILE THE PLANETARY A INDEX WAS 11.5. UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS THE A INDEX IS LESS THAN 10.

AT THE TIME THIS BULLETIN WAS WRITTEN ON WEDNESDAY, THINGS ARE QUIETING DOWN AND LONG RANGE HF PROPAGATION IS COMING BACK. THE NOAA SPACE ENVIRONMENT SERVICE CENTER FORECASTS SOLAR FLUX AFTER MARCH 30 TO DROP BELOW 200, STAY AROUND 180 FOR SEVERAL DAYS, AND THEN RISE TO 195 ON APRIL 4. A STEADY RISE IN FLUX VALUES SHOULD FOLLOW, REACHING A PEAK OF AROUND 270 ON APRIL 18. REGION 6555 WILL HAVE ROTATED BEYOND VIEW BY THE TIME THIS BULLETIN IS TRANSMITTED, ALTHOUGH TERRESTRIAL EFFECTS FROM A MAJOR FLARE FROM BEYOND THE LIMB ARE POSSIBLE INTO EARLY APRIL.

ZCZC AS61 QST DE WIAW SATELLITE BULLETIN 92 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT APRIL 2, 1991 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

AO10 APOGEE TIMES AND LONGITUDES, APR 3 0253Z AT 034W 1432Z AT 209W APR 4 0212Z AT 025W 1351Z AT 200W AO13 APOGEE TIMES AND LONGITUDES, APR 3 0859Z AT 166W 2026Z AT 338W APR 4 0752Z AT 150W 1919Z AT 322W AO21 APOGEE TIMES AND LONGITUDES, APR 3 0102Z AT 277W 0247Z AT 303W 0432Z AT 330W APR 4 0130Z AT 286W 0315Z AT 312W 0459Z AT 338W

OTHER AMATEUR SATELLITE REFERENCE ORBITS, APR 3 UO11 0117Z AT 069W RS10/11 1809Z AT 350W RS12/13 2206Z AT 004W APR 4 UO11 0012Z AT 053W RS10/11 1839Z AT 359W RS12/13 2234Z AT 013W. NNNN

GL DE WIAW

THIS IS ARRL HEADQUARTERS STATION WIAW IN NEWINGTON CT